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Idaho Transportation Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Southwest Idaho highway construction report for Nov. 16 - Nov. 23

ADA COUNTY

Interstate 84 East resurfacing between Broadway Interchange and Eisenman Interchange

Work is concluding for the winter months on a project to repave 6.1 miles of Interstate 84 between the Broadway Interchange and Eisenman Interchange. The eastbound on- and off-ramps at the Gowen Interchange reopened to traffic on Nov. 9. They were closed during the week of Oct. 29 - Nov. 2. Construction is expected to shut down before Thanksgiving and resume in the spring. Speed limits and lane configurations will return to normal on Wednesday, Nov. 21. The \$12 million project is on schedule to be completed by summer 2008.

Broadway Avenue Overpass repairs

The eastbound lanes of Interstate 84 under the Broadway Avenue Overpass will close during the evening hours on Sunday, Nov. 18, for overpass repair work. Starting Sunday, I-84 eastbound traffic will be directed to the off-ramp at Broadway Avenue, across Broadway and onto the eastbound on-ramp to access I-84. The closure of the eastbound interstate lanes starts at 10 p.m., and lasts until 4 a.m. the following morning, Monday, Nov. 19. Flaggers will direct traffic at the intersection of the ramps and the Broadway Avenue Overpass. The lane closures and detour will allow construction crews to make final repairs to the southbound lanes of the Broadway Overpass. Crews will be patching girders on the underside of the overpass. It sustained heat damage on Sept. 16 when a semi crashed and caught fire close to the overpass. The northbound and southbound lanes of the overpass will remain open.

10 Mile Road Overpass repairs

The Ten Mile Road Overpass closed to all traffic on Nov. 8 to allow crews to repair the damaged structure. The closure is expected to last until mid- to late December. Ten Mile Road between Franklin Road and Overland Road will be restricted to local traffic only for the duration of the project. There will be temporary detours for westbound Interstate 84 traffic on Tuesday and Wednesday morning to allow crews to make repairs to the overpass. On Tuesday morning (Nov. 20), from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m., and on Wednesday morning (Nov. 21), from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m., westbound vehicles will be directed to exit I-84 at the Meridian Road Interchange, turn right to drive north to Franklin Road, then turn left onto Franklin to continue driving to the west. When motorists reach the Garrity Interchange in Nampa, they will be able to enter I-84 to continue west. Two girders on the bridge were struck and damaged by an over-height vehicle in early May, causing the overpass to be restricted to one lane of traffic. The overpass must be completely closed to allow significant repair work to damaged areas.

Locust Grove Overpass construction

Work started in December 2006 on a new overpass that will connect Locust Grove Road and offer an extended route over Interstate 84 between Eagle Road and Meridian Road. The overpass will open on Thursday, Nov. 29. Currently, Locust Grove Road south of Interstate 84 ends near the interstate. The north side of Locust Grove Road also ends near Interstate 84. The inside lane of eastbound and westbound I-84 near the construction site closed in March and will remain closed until the end of November. The closure allowed for construction of the center overpass pier and new median barrier. The speed limit is reduced from 65 miles per hour to 55 miles per hour. The new overpass, scheduled to be finished at the end of November, will consist of two lanes in each direction, sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of the overpass. Concrete Placing Co. of Boise is the contractor on the \$5,845,000 project.

BOISE COUNTY

Dunnigan Creek Bridge

Construction started in June to replace the Dunnigan Creek Bridge over Mores Creek. The bridge is located 14 miles south of Idaho City and seven miles north of the Mores Creek High Bridge. The 70-year-old bridge will be replaced with a taller, wider structure. Slope stabilization also will be done along Idaho 21 before and after the bridge. There will be a temporary crossing over Mores Creek while the new bridge is built, which will maintain one lane in each direction for motorists. The speed limit in the construction area will be reduced from 45 mph to 25 mph. There will be occasional traffic stops at approximately 15-minute intervals at the construction site. There may be some construction activity on weekends. The work is scheduled to be finished close to Nov. 30. McAlvain Excavation is the contractor on the \$2.3 million project.

CANYON COUNTY

Interstate 84, Exit 29/Franklin Interchange rebuilding

The Exit 29/Franklin Road Interchange is being rebuilt to improve access to Caldwell from I-84, improve traffic flow and ease congestion. The Interstate 84 (I-84) westbound right lane near the Franklin Road Interchange closed for excavation work on Oct. 29 and will reopen on Monday, Nov. 19. Motorists will still be able to enter I-84 westbound from Franklin Road. However, drivers are advised to use the 10th Avenue on-ramp at Exit 28, especially during heavy commute times. The lane closure will allow crews to excavate the westbound on-ramp next to the fog line. The new on-ramp is expected to be open by mid-November. A guardrail has been placed at the edge of the right lane to keep traffic away from a potentially dangerous drop-off that will be created by the excavation work. Aviation Way is open. The interchange rebuilding, which started in early December 2006, will enhance several aspects of the interchange. The current two-lane Franklin Overpass will be replaced with a six-lane bridge. The new overpass will have two through lanes in each direction and dual left turn lanes in each direction. The interchange ramps are being lengthened and widened to two lanes at their intersection with Franklin. Eastbound on-ramp traffic from Franklin Road onto Interstate 84 is using a temporary ramp. Westbound off-ramp traffic from Interstate 84 onto Franklin Road also is using a temporary ramp, just west of the current ramp. Both temporary ramps are a single lane each. Those ramps, scheduled to be in place for several months, will allow crews to rebuild the closed ramps. Once finished, the new ramps will offer two lanes each. The eastbound off-ramp and westbound on-ramp will have traffic shifted to temporary ramps at a later date. The project also involves widening Franklin Road from two to five lanes between the overpass and Specht Avenue. The new road will have a curb, gutter, sidewalk, bicycle lanes and shoulder. Aviation Way will be widened at the intersection with Franklin Road. A new traffic signal also will be added. Lanes may be reduced temporarily on Franklin Road and Aviation Way during the widening. Both roads will remain open during construction. One or both lanes of I-84 may be closed between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. for safety while crews replace the overpass. Traffic will be detoured. A new bridge and three new lanes are now being used after the old overpass was torn down. At the project's completion, all six new overpass lanes will be opened. Concrete Placing Co. is the contractor for the \$25 million project. Construction is scheduled to be finished in the fall of 2008.

I-84B Blaine Street/Cleveland Boulevard repaving

A repaving project is nearing completion on Blaine and Cleveland, from 10th Avenue South to just east of South Florida Avenue. The roadway was rebuilt and paved to the edge of new curb and gutter along both streets. Curb and gutter replacement and most asphalt removal on Blaine Street and Cleveland Boulevard are complete. Central Paving Company Inc. is the contractor for the \$2.8 million project. This fall, work was completed on new curb and gutter on Blaine Street and Cleveland Boulevard, from 10th Avenue to 22nd Avenue in Caldwell. The \$1.8 million project will improve drainage and eliminate dips at side street intersections. Braun-Jensen Incorporated was the project contractor on the curb and gutter work. Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant pedestrian ramps were installed at sidewalk street corners and ramps were aligned to the center of crosswalks for easier access. Blaine Street and Cleveland Boulevard (Interstate 84 Business Route) are the two major east/west corridors that move traffic through a residential area to a commercial area farther east. These streets also are collectors for side streets and have large numbers of traffic, particularly during rush hours.

For current driving conditions on Idaho highways, dial 5-1-1 or visit 511.idaho.gov.